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The University of San Diego will initiate a pilot program for the elderly this summer

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NEWS RELEASE

UNIVERSITY OF SAN DIEGO



OFFICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION

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IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The University of San Diego will initiate a pilot program for the elderly this summer. Coordinated by Conference Center Director Malachi Rafferty, it will be called The University of the Third Age.

Modeled after a project designed by Professor Pierre Vellas in 1972 at the University of Toulouse, France, the USD program will be the first of its kind on the west coast. Similar undertakings have been made at Notre Dame, Ohio State, and several eastern universities.

USD's pilot project will accept fifty students and begin this summer. It will run for five and one-half weeks, from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm, and 2:00-4:00. Instruction will include lectures, conferences, field trips, and small group discussions.

The program is envisioned as comprising ten major subdivisions: Physical Conditioning, following a health exam and doctor's approval; Current Affairs and Politics; Law and Law and Order; Economics; Religion; Retirement Issues; Medicine; Languages; Art, and Music. There will be miscellaneous field trips.

In announcing the program, USD President Author E. Hughes said "As an independent, Catholic university, we feel an obligation to serve the growing population of the elderly in San Diego. USD's community is a caring community through its employees as well as its student body. We hope the elderly will feel at home here; we will attempt to demonstrate that phrase we use to describe USD - 'person-oriented.' The holistic concept of education as practiced at USD will be applied to these non-traditional students in that their program will be beyond intellectual development. It includes their spiritual, social, political, and physical lives.

"Our park-like campus which is centrally located and on the city bus route is an ideal setting for our senior citizens to mix with our undergraduate students. We look for support of the professional community to assist us through its expertise in the medical and instructional aspects of The University of the Third Age."

Classes will begin July 19 and run through August 24. Information may be obtained by calling Coordinator Mal Rafferty, at 291-6480, ext. 4318.

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